

Translation

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
TENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

10/509877

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference R 02036	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/000994	International filing date (day/month/year) 31 mars 2003 (31.03.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 02 avril 2002 (02.04.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C09K 5/18		
Applicant RHODIA CONSUMER SPECIALTIES LTD		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 28 octobre 2003 (28.10.2003)	Date of completion of this report 14 July 2004 (14.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/R2003/000994

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☐ the international application as originally filed

☒ the description:

pages 1-7, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☒ the claims:

pages 1-14, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).

☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).

☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199301 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class G04, AN 1993-003933 XP002223566 & JP 04 331281 A (KOBE STEEL LTD) 19 November 1992 (1992-11-19)

1.1 Novelty

D1, which is the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, describes a calcium oxide powder and a liquid phosphoric acid stored separately and mutually contacted at the time of use to generate heat. A moisture-absorbing agent (e.g. zeolite, active alumina, etc.) can be added.

Therefore, the difference between the subject matter of claim 1 and D1 is that the mineral oxide is impregnated with orthophosphoric acid.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

1.2 Inventive step

To assess whether an inventive step is involved it is necessary to formulate the technical problem resolved by the distinctive feature, as indicated above (see 1.1).

The technical effect produced by this distinctive feature is to simplify the self-heating process. The problem that the present invention sets out to solve is, therefore, to provide a composition which makes self-heating processes easier to use. The prior art does not provide any information leading to the proposed solution. Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

Claims 2-11 are dependent on claim 1 and, as such, also meet the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.

The use of the composition as claimed in claims 12-14 is also considered to be novel and inventive.